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Leap forward for 'historical roots'

PEGUIS FIRST NATION

Committee OK's first step for an urban reserve at Assiniboia Downs

Stephanie Taylor
Metro | Winnipeg

The chief of a Manitoba First Nation says a critical first step has been taken in what promises to be a long journey toward establishing an urban reserve at Assiniboia Downs.

Cindy Spence of Peguis First Nation believes a partnership with The Manitoba Jockey Club — the non-profit group that owns the racetrack — to include an urban reserve in a site redevelopment plan is a chance for her community to re-establish its connection to Winnipeg.

Called the Assiniboia Downs Area Master Plan, the first stage of the proposal was approved by the Assiniboia community committee Tuesday evening.

"Peguis has long historical roots here within and around the city," Spence told reporters afterwards.

"Once the development happens at the Downs, it's going to give us an opportunity to make the City of Winnipeg aware of the historical roots regarding Chief Peguis and us as decedents."

Darren Dunn, CEO of Assiniboia Downs, said the need for commercial redevelopment comes as the horse racing industry has evolved, and does not require as much parking as is currently available at the site.

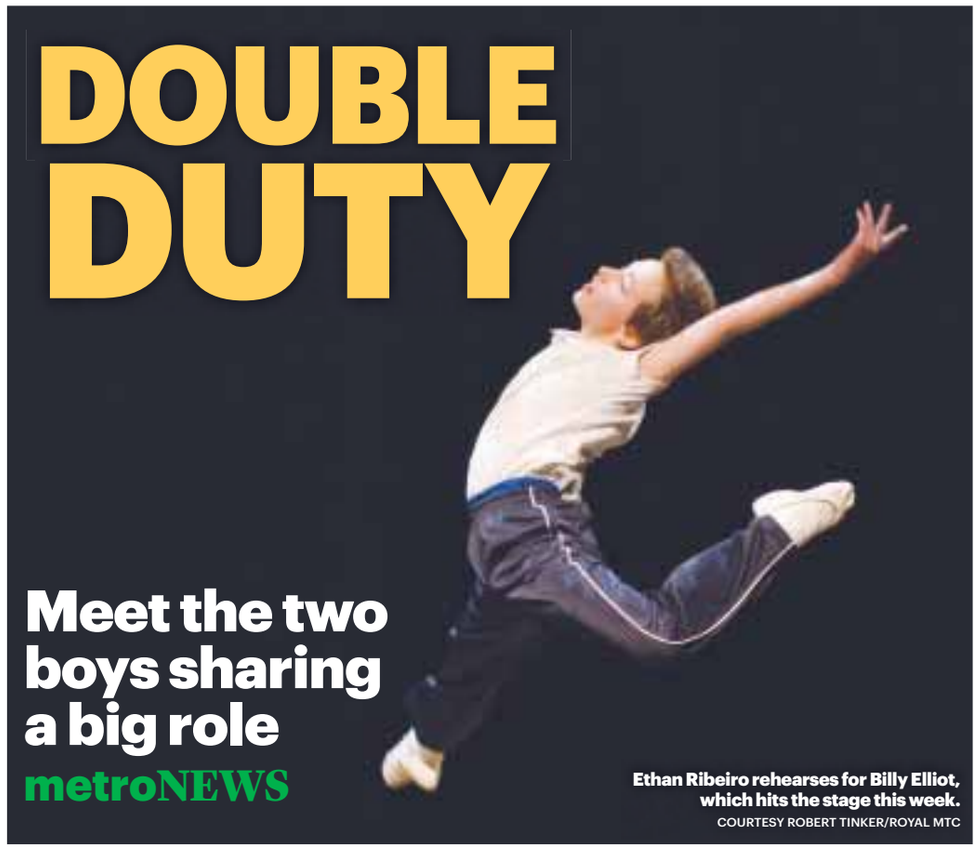
The master plan includes the existing racetrack, but with new hotels, restaurants and "expanded gaming opportunities" — which is why partnering with a First Nations made sense, Dunn says.

Spence said Peguis First Nation is entitled to the land under Treaty 1, but anticipates it will take years to convert to reserve status.

Tuesday's committee also voted to have city staff study best practices for establishing what's technically designated as indigenous economic zones, which exist in provinces such as Saskatchewan and British Columbia.

"There's a good future ahead for the City of Winnipeg and First Nations partners," Spence said.

The matter will next go before the city's property development and downtown heritage committee.



Ethan Ribeiro rehearses for Billy Elliot, which hits the stage this week.
COURTESY ROBERT TINKER/ROYAL MTC

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metro NEWS
Your essential daily news

Steven Avery, the subject in Netflix's series Making a Murderer, has filed an appeal of his conviction

IN BRIEF

Police ask for help in identifying man

Winnipeg police are asking for the public's help in solving the mystery of a deceased handyman's identity. The man was taken to a Winnipeg hospital in early January where he passed away.

Police say there is no criminal investigation and foul play is not suspected.

The man known as "Ron Foster" and "Edgar Brown" was living on Selkirk Avenue before his death, and had previously lived on Ellice Avenue and Furby Street. He is described as a black male, approximately five-foot-four and 109 pounds with black short curly hair streaked with grey. Anyone with information can contact the Missing Persons Unit at 204-986-4510. METRO

Hospital helipad to accept flights this spring

A long-promised helicopter landing pad will soon be operating at a Winnipeg hospital.

The heliport at the Health Sciences Centre will start accepting flights this spring, cutting 20 minutes or more from patient transport times.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

The outgoing official voyagers, the Sorin family, will pass the mantle to a new family to be announced Feb. 20 during Community Night. The Sorins have acted as ambassadors for the festival since 2014. BRAEDEN JONES/METRO

The festival of more

ANNOUNCEMENT

Festival du Voyageur has activities for everyone

Braeden Jones
Metro | Winnipeg

This year's Festival du Voyageur is the festival of more — with more performers and more for visitors than ever before. The annual winter and cultural celebration running from Feb. 12 to Feb. 21 revealed its 2016 program Tuesday.

Event director Julienne Desaulniers said in addition to boasting 140 artists — the most of any music festival in the province — this year's festival is "very different and very fun" in other ways.

A new tent with capacity for around 300 people will host numerous special events, including a singles night on Valentine's Day.

"It's going to be hilarious, there's going to be slow dancing, (live) dating game shows, it should be a really fun thing for folks to do," Desaulniers said, adding it was inspired by the spring's "Singles night at Safeway… but voyageur style."

He said it's the perfect event for "lumbersexual" sympathizers or anyone particularly fond of sashes. Spokesperson Ginette Lavack Walters said other events like the Across the Board Game Café hosted board game night and karaoke night do even more to "create something participatory for festival goers."

IF YOU GO...

Festival passes are available through online presales, the ticket line at 204-233-2556 and at Safeway stores across Winnipeg.

MANITOBA

Child care fees to drop

Manitoba Premier Greg Selinger promised more child-care spaces and lower fees Tuesday — the latest in a series of pre-election announcements aimed at contrasting the NDP government with the Opposition Progressive Conservatives.

Selinger promised to adopt new recommendations from a government advisory panel on child care, aimed largely at subsidized fees that are based on parents' incomes.

The minimum $2-a-day fee for low-income earners would be phased out over seven years, Selinger said, and fees for other families, which currently range up to $28 a day, would be lowered so that families spend no more than 10 per cent of their income on child care.

The government would also set minimum-wage scales for child-care workers, double the number of positions in colleges and workplace training programs, and ensure schools offer before- and after-school care.

The annual cost has yet to be determined. "Going forward, I expect it will be tens of millions of dollars and we have to work that out as part of the budget process," Selinger said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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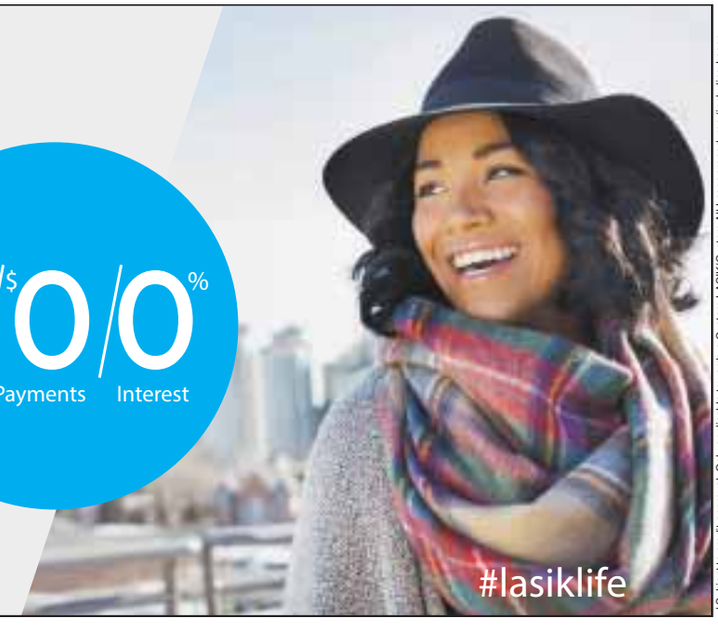

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EXPROPRIATION

Staff 'silent' on land, rapid transit criticism

Plans to expropriate land for the second phase of Winnipeg's rapid transit expansion and a retention pond are moving ahead at City Hall, despite criticisms of how dealings with property owners unfolded.

Coun. Russ Wyatt was the sole member of the city's property development and downtown heritage committee on Tuesday to question why city administration remained "silent" in their responses to "damning" reviews of the expropriation process by independent inquiry officer George Ulyatt. City staff had requested the committee not endorse changes recommend by Ulyatt following inquiries with various affected land owners who objected to the expropriation, citing delays if alternative locations or plans were investigated.

> **At the end of the day the pond has to go there.**
> Coun. John Orlikow

In one of his reports, Ulyatt found the plan to expropriate some of the Parker Lands in order to build a retention pond for the Cockburn-Calrossie combined sewer drainage project — which would provide basement flood relief to the area's homeowners — not "fair and reasonably necessary."

Ulyatt ruled that city officials, including former-acting chief operating officer Deepak Joshi, were "secretive, uncommunicative and non-consultative," with property owner Andrew Marquess.

"At the end of the day the pond has to go there," committee chair and Coun. John Orlikow told reporters afterwards."Regardless of if we're having consultation with the land owner or not, that's where the pond has to go and that's why we have to expropriate."

During Tuesday's meeting, city engineer Geoff Patton explained the Parker Lands location offered the "best technical solution" for the drainage project, saying more than 30 sites were studied.

STEPHANIE TAYLOR/METRO

IN BRIEF

City to look at buffer zones between tracks, homes

City staff will develop a set of guidelines to establish buffer zones between railway lines and new residential neighbourhoods in Winnipeg.

The city's property development and downtown heritage committee OK'd the decision Tuesday, which originated in the wake of the Lac-Megantic rail disaster of 2013.

Coun. Matt Allard said the City needs to ensure more safety around rail lines, as a 2015 report shows other cities have mandated up to a 30-metre buffer zone between new homes and train tracks. STEPHANIE TAYLOR/METRO

Art project moves ahead

A plan to beautify some of downtown Winnipeg's back lanes earned the support of a city committee Tuesday.

Members of the city's property development and downtown heritage committee gave the green light to award a $20,000 grant to the Winnipeg Downtown BIZ to launch a national design competition in order to transform the alley behind Dollarama and Mountain Equipment Co-op into an art installation.

STEPHANIE TAYLOR/METRO

Times Change(d) will be saved if city council commits to designating the building a heritage site. BRAEDEN JONES/METRO

Popular music club may survive after all

HOTEL DEVELOPMENT

One of three buildings on Main up for heritage status

Stephanie Taylor
Metro | Winnipeg

It seems the times may not be a-changin' for an iconic Winnipeg music club after its building was granted heritage status by a city committee.

On Tuesday, the property development and downtown heritage committee gave the go-ahead to designate three south Main Street properties— the MacDonald Block, Winnipeg Hotel and Fortune Block— with heritage status, effectively removing them from the demolition block to make way for a $35 million dollar hotel. Toronto-based architect Harry Christakis said afterward that city protection on the three historic buildings essentially means "that hotel is dead."

"It's a little disappointing, needless to say," he told reporters Tuesday.

George Landes, owner of the 133-year old Fortune Building, which houses the Times Change(d) High and Lonesome Club, was in favour of a for-profit development, such as a hotel, to replace the aged building.

But numerous speakers, including Heritage Winnipeg executive director Cindy Tugwell pleaded to the committee not to choose "demolition by default" because the buildings' owners allowed them to fall into a state of disrepair, but instead choose to preserve the city's history.

> **The right thing to do is to continue to preserve our heritage**
> Coun. Jenny Gerbasi

"This is the place that people love," Times Change(d) owner John Scoles said outside the committee room.

"If you know anything about this kind of business and this kind of music, people want the old place they came to with their dad and they want to bring their daughter there 20 years from now. We've managed to do that."

More than 200 musicians play at the local club, he added.

Before the committee's decision, Coun. Russ Wyatt noted he did not want to send a message to the hotel developer that outside investment wasn't welcome in the city, saying the "game changer" was an offer made by local businessman John Pollard to purchase and restore the buildings to their original state.

"What makes our city what it is is the uniqueness of it and heritage is part of it," Coun. Jenny Gerbasi said Tuesday. "There's a real opportunity to see (these buildings) redeveloped."

The buildings' property owners will have a chance to appeal the committee's decision before the council has final say.

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‘Transformative’ funding

EDUCATION

Province makes $150M pledge for indigenous scholarships

Braeden Jones
Metro | Winnipeg

Indigenous students at the University of Manitoba will have a shot at new scholarships and bursaries thanks to new provincial funding.

The money is part of the $150 million provincially funded “Front and Centre” campaign at the university, $30 million of which was pegged for research excellence and indigenous supports during the announcement.

Monica Cyr, a first year master’s student in the Human Nutritional Sciences program, said the new money “will have enormous impact.”

“(The funding) will make us more competitive (in) attracting and retaining outstanding students,” Cyr said.

She said she “wouldn’t be as successful” as she has been academically without the bursaries and scholarships she’d received since her first term.

In addition to funding scholarships and bursaries, the $5 million “Indigenous Success Fund” will assist in establishing earlier connections with Indigenous youth through outreach programs.

“I feel the U of M has significantly supported indigenous achievement in terms of the bursaries and scholarships that are offered for us,” Cyr said. “And for that, I say megwich (thank you).”

David Barnard, the University’s president, thanked the government for what he called a “transformative” investment.

Monica Cyr, a first year master’s student in Human Nutrition, says she owes a lot of her academic success to scholarships and bursaries such as those the government’s new investment will create. BRAEDEN JONES/METRO

$5M

The new provincial funding will help support indigenous undergraduate students with $5 million in new scholarships and bursaries.

$7M

Of the new funding, $7 million will be allotted for new teaching chairs in palliative care, innovation, energy systems, water resources and sustainable food development.

$500K

An additional $500,000 will be committed to the Wise Kid-Netic Energy engineer-in-residence program. Another $500,000 will help fund a women-in-engineering professorship.

GOVERNMENT

Labour vote looms for civil servants

After more than a year at the bargaining table, Manitoba’s 14,000 civil service members are set to vote on a tentative agreement with the province.

The five-year deal between the Manitoba Government and General Employees Union and the Manitoba government itself was reached late in December.

It includes one per cent retroactive wage increases for 2014 and 2015, and a two per cent increase for the final three years.

The two sides have been at the table since March 2014.

MGEU president Michelle Gawronsky believes money was one of the main issues that caused talks to drag on.

“We want the members to take a look at what the government has offered them and let the members decide whether they want to accept this deal, get their retroactive pay or do they want to wait and go to arbitration,” said Gawronsky.

Voting will take place across the province in the last two weeks of January, and through a mail-in ballot. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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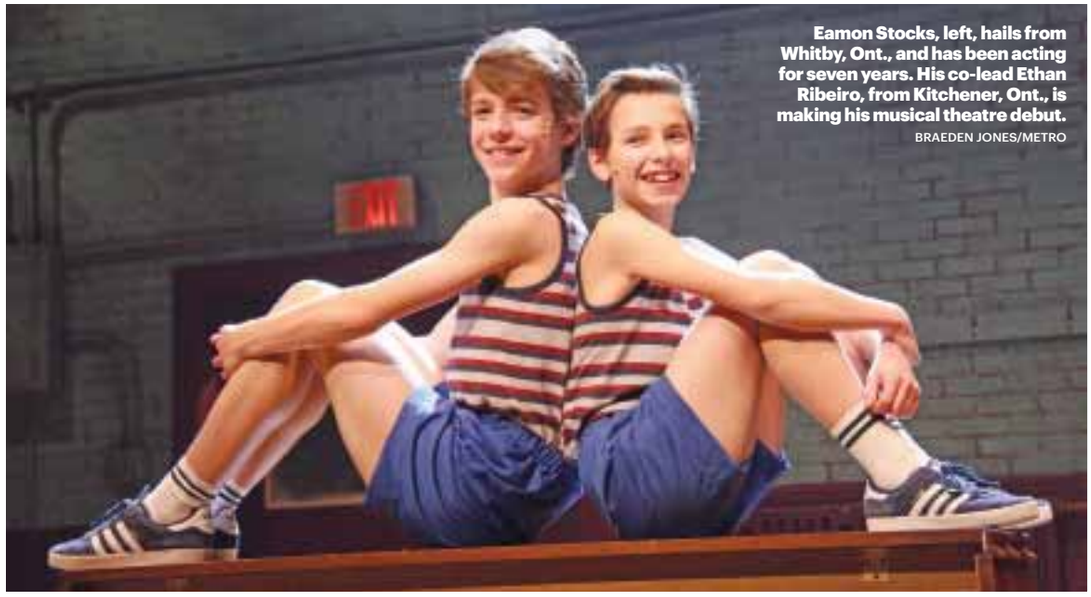
It takes two to be Billy Elliot

ARTS

Teens take on 'demanding role' for the Royal MTC

Braeden Jones
Metro | Winnipeg



Eamon Stocks, left, hails from Whitby, Ont., and has been acting for seven years. His co-lead Ethan Ribeiro, from Kitchener, Ont., is making his musical theatre debut. BRAEDEN JONES/METRO

The lead role in the coming Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre's production of Billy Elliot is so demanding, the company cast two boys to play the part.

The determined dancing boy Billy Elliot will be played by both Eamon Stocks, 15, and Ethan Ribeiro, 14.

Artistic director Steven Schipper said there were about 2,000 young people who auditioned for the dynamic role, and he feels "fortunate" to have found the two boys, who will alternate playing the part night after night.

"It's a very demanding role, almost impossible to cast," he said, noting that beyond a triple threat of singing, dancing and acting, the part of Billy requires extra skills like acrobatics, and a certain kind of earnestness, too.

"Billy has to carry the show," he said.

"The whole story requires this tremendous emotional honesty, and if you're Billy Elliot you've got to lead the play in that regard."

Schipper said both Eamon and Ethan are "totally capable" and "wonderful human beings."

Metro sat down with both Billys to ask them about tackling the role.

What it's like sharing the part?

Eamon: I enjoy that I get to share the part with someone I've become good friends with. It's nice because you get a break once in a while, (and) it's a very strenuous role.

What have you learned from the character?

Ethan: Billy really just kind of does what he loves to do, I think that's really important, that's what I want to do, just do what I love.

Eamon: I'd say (it's) always be yourself and follow what you want to follow and not what everybody else wants you to follow.

And what have you learned from each other?

Eamon: Sort of the same thing, because he (Ethan) comes from a family of only one other dancer and other than that it's a hockey family, and I feel like Ethan went the same path as Billy.… It's really inspiring.

Ethan: I haven't done any musical theatre before, I've only ever done dance.… Any chance I get to learn from (Eamon), because he has a lot more experience in musical theatre, I always go for it.… He knows what he's doing, I've learned a lot from him.

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Quebec's immigration minister Kathleen Weil greets a Syrian family in Quebec City on Tuesday.
CLEMENT ALLARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Soldiers wind down Syrian work overseas

ARMED FORCES

Next big step is to help house the newcomers

The military is beginning to wind down its overseas involvement in the Liberal government's commitment to resettling thousands of Syrian refugees in a matter of months.

Approximately 70 Canadian Armed Forces members have returned from Jordan and Lebanon, where they were part of a broader government effort to bring 25,000 Syrians to Canada by the end of next month.

"All it takes is seeing one little one the same age as my daughter - smiling because they are going to Canada," said Maj. Drew Willis, who was among 68 soldiers who arrived to waiting family members early Tuesday at Canadian Forces Base Gagetown in New Brunswick.

About 150 soldiers remain overseas helping process applications and conduct medical tests on the thousands of Syrians who are still passing through the screening process.

The Defence Department says the decision to bring some personnel home was made in consultation with the Immigration Department in anticipation of the completion of the program.

"Operation Provision has been a tremendous opportunity to showcase leadership and Canadian values on the world stage and we will continue to stand in support of this whole-of-government effort, ready to assist wherever and however we are needed," Defence Minister Harjit Sajjan said in a statement Tuesday.

Where the military is going to be needed next is at home.

Thousands of Syrians landing in the coming days are expected to be billeted at military bases as cities and towns across the country are still busy securing housing for the new arrivals.

Space is available for 6,000 people at various bases and facilities throughout Ontario and Quebec, with an additional 7,000 spots also in reserve if needed, the Forces say on their website.

Canadian Forces Bases Valcartier, Kingston and Borden are expected to be the first three put into use as early as this week.

By Jan. 10, 9,562 refugees who had arrived. Three government-organized flights of refugees were scheduled to arrive Tuesday, one in Montreal and two in Toronto, taking the number of arrivals to just over 10,000. THE CANADIAN PRESS

> **Operation Provision has been a tremendous opportunity to showcase leadership and Canadian values on the world stage.** Defence Minister Harjit Sajjan

PRIME MINISTER PERKS

Trudeau's sensational swag

Michael Woods
Metro | Ottawa

The prime minister has a lot of responsibility but enjoys great perks — like gifts from heads of state. Trudeau must declare any gifts worth more than $200. Here are five of the coolest things he's received so far.

1 Astronaut ice cream
From Gary Polonsky and Alex Benay, board chairman and president, respectively, of the Canada Science and Technology Museum.

2 Château Larrivet-Haut-Brion Red Bordeaux 2000
French President François Hollande gifted Trudeau three bottles of this wine (which has received an average 90.7 rating on cellartracker.com) at the UN climate summit in Paris last November.

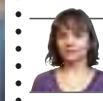
3 Glass globe designed by Kenneth Cobonpue
Philippines President Benigno Aquino III gave one of the internationally acclaimed Filipino designer's pieces to Trudeau at the APEC Summit in Manila on Nov. 18.

4 John Deere mugs
Another gift from the Canada Science and Technology Museum. You can never have enough mugs.

5 Basket with liqueurs, dark rum, vodka and chocolates
Also from Aquino. Chocolate is a safe choice for a guy you don't know well. Plus, you can't go wrong with "a variety of liqueurs." Well done, President Aquino.

MIGRANT CRISIS

Life-jackets tell story of survival



Yvette d'Entremont
Metro | Halifax

Two small life-jackets at the Canadian Museum of Immigration in Halifax, N.S. tell part of the story of young refugees caught up in the Mediterranean migrant crisis last summer.

On loan from the Canada Science and Technology Museum in Ottawa, they were worn last summer by very young refugees caught up in the Mediterranean migrant crisis, museum curator Dan Conlin said the items are a powerful symbol of the refugee experience.

"The life-jackets struck me as a really powerful way to make people think, to put themselves in someone else's shoes," Conlin said.

Alberta physician Simon Bryant brought them to Canada after a six-month Doctors Without Borders mission operating a rescue clinic at sea to help migrants making the dangerous Mediterranean Sea crossing.

While one of the life-jackets is the real deal, Conlin said the other is a cheap vinyl wading pool toy.

The two children were rescued. But Conlin said their country of origin is unclear. Their raft carried passengers from 12 different countries.

"They could have been from Syria, they could have been from Iraq, they could have been from Afghanistan, Ivory Coast or Gambia," he said.

Used by real children, one of these is a wading pool toy.
JEFF HARPER/METRO

IN BRIEF

U.S. lotto could spurs tax headache for Canadians
If you win the $1.5 billion (U.S.) American Powerball lottery jackpot next Wednesday's draw, you don't have to worry about the Canadian taxman taking a bite. But accountant Mark Feigenbaum says the American IRS will withhold a 30 per cent tax on your winnings. There may also be state taxes involved. Still, if you beat the astronomical odds, you'll be able to afford an accountant.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Rekindle belief in change: Obama

STATE OF THE UNION

U.S. president urges rejection of fear, division in final address

President Barack Obama, entering the last year of his presidency, urged Americans Tuesday night to rekindle their belief in the promise of change that first carried him to the White House, declaring that the country must not allow fear and division to take hold.

"It's easier to be cynical, to accept that change isn't possible and politics is hopeless," Obama said in his final state of the union address. "But if we give up now, then we forsake a better future."

At the heart of Obama's address to lawmakers and a prime-time television audience was an implicit call to keep Democrats in the White House for a third straight term.

He struck back at critics who have challenged his economic and national security stewardship, calling it all "political hot air."

In a swipe at some Republican presidential candidates, he warned against "voices urging us to fall back into tribes, to scapegoat fellow citizens who don't look like us or pray like us or vote like we do, or share the same background."

Seeking to shape his own legacy, Obama ticked through a retrospective of his domestic and foreign policy actions in office, including helping lead the economy back from the brink of depression, taking aggressive action on climate change and ending a Cold War freeze with Cuba.

Yet he was frank about one of his biggest regrets: failing to ease the persistently deep divisions between Democrats and Republicans.

"The rancour and suspicion between the parties has gotten worse instead of better," he conceded. "There's no doubt a president with the gifts of Lincoln or Roosevelt might have better bridged the divide, and I guarantee I'll keep trying to be better so long as I hold this office."

Obama also noted he'd welcome "a serious discussion about strategies we can all support, like expanding tax cuts for low-income workers without kids," adding one of those discussions would include deciding what role the government should play in making sure the system works for ordinary Americans, not just the rich.

The State of the Union address, a kind of annual progress report from the president, could be one of Obama's last opportunities to claim a large television audience as president.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

President Barack Obama gestures as he arrives on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, before giving his state of the union address before a joint session of Congress. J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

> **If we give up now,** then we forsake a better future.

> **The rancour and suspicion** between the parties has gotten worse instead of better.

> **I'll keep trying** to be better so long as I hold this office.

HOW THE U.S. HAS FARED IN THE OBAMA ERA

U.S. President Barack Obama used his final state of the union address to deliver an optimistic message about his country, where it stands today, and the opportunities ahead. Here's how the stats stack up:

• **GDP up:** U.S. economy grew 17.8 per cent from early 2009 through 2014. That's much better than the U.K. (11 per cent) and the Eurozone (12 per cent), but not as good as Canada (20 per cent) through 2014. In 2015, the U.S. outperformed Canada too.

• **More Americans have health care:** Uninsured rate dropped from 16.1 per cent of Americans in early 2009, to 11.9 per cent in late 2015.

• **Unemployment rate down:** From 7.8 per cent in January 2009 to 5.0 per cent in December 2015.

• **National debt surged:** From $11.87 trillion in 2009, up to $17.79 trillion in 2014. As percentage of economy, debt grew from 82.4 per cent in 2009 to 103.2 per cent in 2014.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ISIL

Explosion kills 10 in Istanbul

A suicide bomber detonated a bomb in the heart of Istanbul's historic district on Tuesday, killing 10 foreigners — most of them German tourists — and wounding 15 other people in the latest in a string of attacks by Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) extremists targeting Westerners.

The blast, just steps from the historic Blue Mosque and a former Byzantine church in the city's storied Sultanahmet district, was the first by ISIL to target Turkey's vital tourism sector, although ISIL militants have struck with deadly effect elsewhere in the country.

Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu said the bomber was a member of ISIL and pledged to battle the militant group until it no longer "remains a threat" to Turkey or the world.

Citizens leave carnations as they gather near the site of the explosion. EMRAH GUREL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Davutoglu described the assailant as a "foreign national," and Deputy Prime Minister Numan Kurtulmus said he was a Syrian citizen born in 1988. However, the private Dogan news agency said the bomber was Saudi-born.

Eight Germans were among the dead and nine others were wounded, some seriously, German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier told reporters in Berlin. Meanwhile, German chancellor Angela Merkel pledged Germany would continue its fight against terrorism.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Plunge in oil prices follows a falling loonie

Oil and the Canadian dollar breached two benchmarks Tuesday, with crude briefly dipping below $30 US a barrel and the loonie slipping beneath the 70-cent US level during a volatile day on the markets.

At one point in early afternoon trading, a barrel of West Texas Intermediate fell as low as $29.93 US before it regained some ground to settle at $30.44 US a barrel. That was still down 97 cents from Monday's close.

The Canadian dollar hovered above and below the 70-cent US mark throughout the day, dropping as low as 69.85 cents US, before ending the day at 70.14 cents US — its lowest level since April 2003.

Oil prices have dropped precipitously over the last year and a half, falling from above $105 US in June 2014 to levels not seen in more than a decade. And the loonie is heavily influenced by the global price of oil, one of the country's major exports.

Going forward, it is very likely that global economic conditions will remain unfavourable and that subdued commodity prices will persist.

FINANCE MINISTER BILL MORNEAU

The falling dollar and price of oil prompted questions for Finance Minister Bill Morneau, who was in Montreal on Tuesday for pre-budget consultations.

"I know that Canadians are looking closely at the price of oil. Canadians are looking closely at the Canadian dollar," Morneau said. "We recognize that those are important indicators for Canadians as they go about considering their situation."

The currency's historic low is 61.79 cents US, set in January 2002. It hit an all-time high of 110.3 cents US in November 2007 as Canada's resource-heavy economy benefited from global demand for its exports.

The last time Canada's dollar was worth more than the greenback was about three years ago, in February 2013.

OILSANDS

Projects keep pumping despite losing money

Oilsands operators have little choice but to keep pumping despite losing money on every barrel, said industry analyst Martin King, with Calgary investment dealer FirstEnergy Capital. THE CANADIAN PRESS

If there was one bright spot Tuesday, it was the S&P/TSX composite index, which added 54.65 points to end the day at 12,373.90.

In New York, the Dow Jones rose 117.65 points to close at 16,516.22. In other commodities, the February contract for gold fell $11 to settle at $1,085.20 US an ounce while February natural gas fell 13.9 cents to $2.257 US.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ECONOMY

Industries cheer, jeer ailing dollar

The loonie fell below the 70-cent US mark Tuesday for the first time in 13 years. In its wake, the rapidly dropping dollar is leaving a roster of winners and losers in Canada. Here's a look at who is benefiting — and who is hurting:

WINNER: FILM INDUSTRY

Hollywood North, whether it be Vancouver, Toronto, or some of the up-and-coming markets like Calgary, is booming. Peter Leitch, president of North Shore Studios and chairman of the Motion Picture Production Industry Association of B.C., said American studios are increasingly heading to Canada to take advantage of the low dollar.

ISTOCK

"That does make Canada one of the top choices of places to come to," said Leitch. "A few years ago when it was at par, it was quite a challenge to attract business."

LOSER: PRO SPORTS TEAMS

If you think buying a pair of shoes in the U.S. hurts, try signing a multimillion-dollar contract with an NHL, NBA or Major League Baseball star.

WINNER: TOURISM

Canada's tourist hot spots are getting a boost from Americans heading north of the border as well as Canadians opting to take so-called staycations.

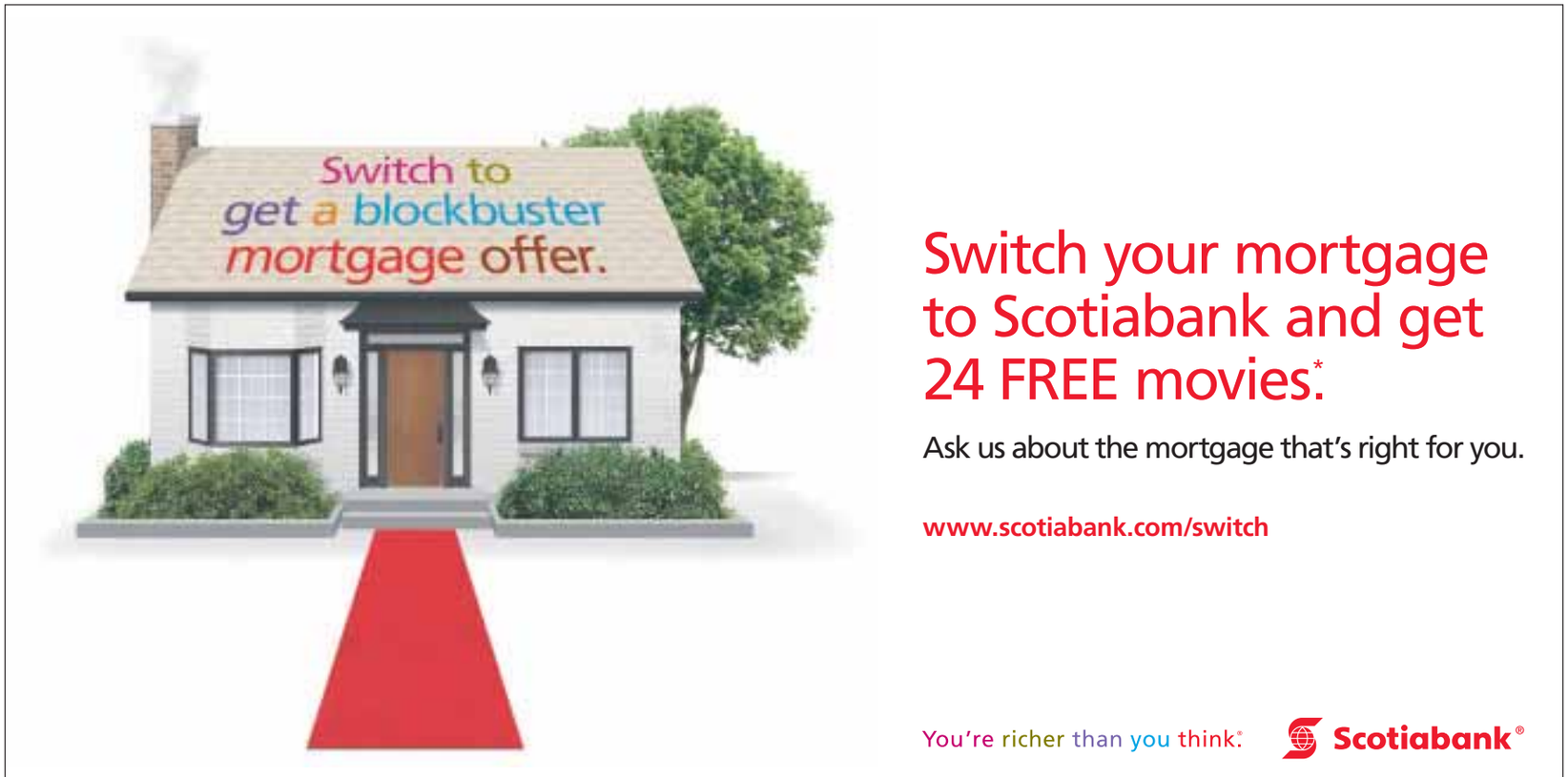
"We've got a lot of drive traffic coming across the border," said Sarah Morden, a spokeswoman for B.C. ski resort Whistler Blackcomb.

The Conference Board of Canada says overnight travel from the U.S. increased about seven per cent last year.

LOSER: CONSUMERS

Be prepared to pay more for anything imported, including food. The University of Guelph's Food Institute estimates the average Canadian household spent an additional $325 on food in 2015 and is expected see an additional increase of about $345 this year because of the low dollar.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE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metro VIEWS

Your essential daily news

Wednesday, January 13, 2016

Barking BFF
Fido really is your best friend. A new study shows scientifically that dogs understand human voices and facial expressions.

ELLEN VANSTONE

URBAN ETIQUETTE

Is it acceptable to break up with someone by text or email? Or do you have to do it in person?

Dear Ellen,
Is it acceptable to break up with a person by text or email? Or do you have to do it in person?
Jamie, Vancouver

Dear Jamie,

Traditionalists will maintain that the only acceptable M.O. is to meet in person, in private, deliver the blow, and then allow your newly minted ex to react for as long, and with as much tearful, abusive rage, as deemed necessary.

But, with an open mind to evolving mores and technology, I put this question to Facebook friends of all ages, and received a variety of answers.

At least two male respondents seemed to miss the point: Don ("pro basketball or football game, with the help of the cheerleaders, while dressed as the mascot") and Zach ("Always ask the father first. It's tradition"). Actually, I'm pretty sure both those guys are single at the moment, which may explain their confusion.

Others (I hope) were joking, including Tim ("Twitter. You manage to tell the person and the world at the same time!") and Bren ("Invite them to a private Facebook event titled 'Our Anniversary' and then click 'not going'").

Twenty-something Katie stated that "Lots of people from the younger generation (like, high-school kids) actually prefer being broken up to via text. For me and my friends, that's an absolute no-go."

I can certainly see the benefits of an e-breakup, from both sides. The dumper doesn't have to face the music, or get a drink thrown in their face. And the dumpee can collapse with shock and dismay without giving the dumper the satisfaction of seeing the collapse, followed by the pleasure of crafting a withering reply accusing the dumper of spineless, selfish discourtesy. Win-win — if you're both pathologically repressed social incompetents who live 5,000 miles apart without access to voice calls or Skype, and you're under the age of 12.

As always with good manners, it's about putting the other person's feelings above your own.

For the rest of you, note that the most representative reply in my FB focus group was this one, from Nora: "No text, definitely no email or snail mail (that's for business only); phone or Skype if you can't see them in person. NO crowded restaurant! Ideally, the civilized breakup is in person in private."

But others had qualifications to this basic rule of etiquette, like Maria: "Private, but not TOO private. I think proper etiquette would allow for the ability to stomp off. I know a woman who was dumped (not literally) in a canoe in the middle of a lake."

I happen to know that Maria, years ago, was given the pink slip by a snotty New York Times reporter boyfriend in public on the Upper East Side. But to this day, we both savour the memory of her slapping him across the face in front of a delighted sidewalk audience before she leapt into a passing cab.

Most respondents eschewed the crowded-restaurant scenario, which, aside from adding insult to injury by being such a cliché, denies more timid dumpees their right to a private, tearful, abusive rage.

But Jessica commented: "I'm going to put in a small plug for restaurant, only because I've seen so many couples break up that way (and have been there myself). In fact Jane F. and I once worked up a whole bit about the qualities of a Good Breakup Restaurant." And Karen even cited a favourite location: "My breakup place was College Street Bar. Got dumped there and later paid it forward."

If you're not sure which breakup method is best for you and your intended ex, choose Nora's protocol: In person, in private. And remember that, as always with good manners, it's about putting the other person's feelings before your own. In this case, the other person's feelings may be vengeful hatred of you, but so be it. Take it on the chin, and know that you did the right thing, which may even help the person when calm enough to appreciate it.

Need advice?
Email Ellen:
scene@metronews.ca

metroview

The toughest part of Syrian resettlement is still ahead of us

Tim Harper

Much of the political and national conversation on the Trudeau government's ambitious Syrian refugee program has revolved around targets and timelines. But that has obscured a larger truth.

As the country's 10,000th Syrian refugee arrives in Canada this week, the toughest part of this project for the Liberal government lies ahead.

For the first time, government-sponsored refugees have topped the numbers of privately sponsored refugees, and another 15,000 displaced Syrians — a mix of both programs — will arrive by the end of February.

Military bases are standing by to potentially house government-sponsored refugees in the dead of a Canadian winter, and this is a much more vulnerable, at-risk group than those who have the privately sponsored support system awaiting their arrival.

This country, because of geography, some prudent planning despite the rush, and the ability to pick and choose its new arrivals, can legitimately look on our effort with pride. We are now standing virtually alone in not having to face down some type of refugee backlash.

But as their numbers swell, it will not take much to spark one. There can be no perception that housing, schooling or job queues are jumped and the resettlement effort has to continue relatively seamlessly so that anxieties are not heightened on either side. There are those who want this government project to fail and they are lurking, on social media and email inboxes, waiting with matches to ignite that spark.

Canadians have contributed to winter clothing drives and have welcomed refugees into their homes. It has taken on the trappings of a national project.

But European countries, without the ability to pick and choose, have been dealing with a tide of migrants with no end in sight. According to the International Organization for Migration, 1,700 migrants have arrived by sea in Europe each day so far in 2016.

In Germany, Angela Merkel's government is changing laws to make it easier to deport foreign nationals, including asylum-seekers, in the wake of a massive number of assaults and sexual assaults of women in Cologne on New Year's Eve. All the suspects identified so far are immigrants, but they are not necessarily part of a wave of 1.1 million migrants who flooded into Germany last year.

That doesn't seem to matter. The damage is done. There is no direct line to be drawn between those incidents and attitudes in Canada, but opponents of the influx will be only too happy to draw one, if given half a chance.

Tim Harper (@nutgraf1) is a national affairs columnist for the Toronto Star.

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metro LIFE

Your essential daily news

Wednesday, January 13, 2016

"I'm just a gay guy from Indiana who doesn't play basketball, but now I'm the entertainment president of CBS," Glenn Geller said of his network losing significant ground in depicting ethnic diversity.

Baking the good into goodies

EATING WELL

Sweet! Healthy tricks and substitutions from a dietitian

After holiday indulgences, baking might not be uppermost on the minds of most home cooks. Yet it's not necessary to give it up if you use a few tricks to inject some stealth health into muffins, scones, cakes and other goodies.

Using lentils, barley and canola, along with taking steps to reduce fat and sugar, can go far in making sweets and snacks healthful without sacrificing taste, says registered dietitian Zannat Reza.

Lentils are high in fibre and protein, inexpensive, and easy to add to baking when puréed, says Reza. "On the weekend I'll puree up a whole bunch of lentils, scoop them out in half-cup measurements and freeze them," says Reza, who is based in Toronto.

"If you have the urge to bake you can take out one of these little pucks, thaw it in the microwave and add it to your baking.

Greek yogurt adds more protein and calcium to recipes and can be used in place of sour cream and mayonnaise.

Here are some other ways to put a healthier spin on baking:

Spiced Apple and Lentil Skillet Cake. HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

VERSATILE AVOCADO
Swapping in an equal amount of mashed avocado for butter works well in chocolate baked goods.

Flour power

Swap in whole wheat flour for half the all-purpose flour in a baking recipe. Then add 2 tablespoons of wheat germ, needed because federal rules allow manufacturers to remove up to five per cent of the wheat kernel to reduce rancidity and prolong shelf life.

"You do need to add a little bit extra liquid," says Reza. "For every two tablespoons of wheat germ I find that you need to add at least a quarter cup of liquid. It could be milk, water. Say if a recipe calls for sugar and you're using maple syrup, you're adding a liquid to the baking so that will add towards the liquid."

Look for products that have "whole grain" on the label or in the ingredients list, she says.

Barley flour can be swapped for all-purpose flour. Barley contains vitamins, minerals and amino acids and is low in sodium, fat and sugar. Health Canada has approved a claim linking the consumption of barley beta-glucan, a type of soluble fibre, to reduced blood cholesterol.

Barley flakes resemble rolled oats but pack more fibre and are great in granola or as part of a topping for fruit crisp.

Canola oil

Cut the amount of butter with canola oil. In a recipe calling for 1/2 cup of butter, you can swap in 1/3 cup of canola oil.

"When it comes to a lot of muffin recipes I tend to use canola just because it has that neutral taste and also has that source of plant omega-3s which are heart healthy," says Reza.

But for pastry or scones, butter is still better for its consistency.

Hemp seeds

Hemp seeds or hearts boost protein and add heart-healthy fats along with a nutty flavour.

"Sometimes I'll add it to smoothies or on my cereal, but lately I've added it to some granola that I've made. I just add it in the last 10 minutes (of baking)," says Reza.

Puréed or mashed fruit

Swap out about half the fat in a recipe with puréed fruit.

For every 1 cup of unsweetened applesauce, reduce the liquid called for in the recipe by 1/4 cup. THE CANADIAN PRESS

RECIPE

Spiced Apple and Lentil Skillet Cake

Makes 6 servings.

Ingredients

- 1/3 cup plus 2 tbsp unsalted butter, divided
- 3/4 cup granulated sugar
- 2 large eggs
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1/2 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup whole-wheat flour
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 2 tsp cinnamon
- 1 tsp ground ginger
- 1 tsp nutmeg
- 1/2 tsp sea salt
- 2 cups finely chopped apples
- 1/2 cup lentil purée

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350 F. Grease a 9-inch cast-iron skillet or square baking dish with 2 Tbsp butter.

2. In the bowl of a stand mixer, cream remaining butter and sugar on high speed until light, about 2 minutes, scraping down sides a few times. Add eggs and vanilla. Beat on high for 2 minutes until fluffy, scraping down sides a few times.

3. In a separate bowl, combine flours, baking soda, cinnamon, ginger, nutmeg and salt. Mix well. Using a rubber spatula, fold flour mixture into butter mixture, then stir in apples and lentil puree until smooth.

4. Scrape into prepared pan, smoothing top. Bake for 25 to 30 minutes or until an inserted toothpick comes out with just a few crumbs clinging.

5. Serve warm, with whipped cream or vanilla ice cream.

SOURCE: LENTILS.CA

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The fish that we just can't resist

SNACK FOODS

A new spin on addictive Goldfish crackers

Despite the zeal toward eating local and whole foods, kids and adults are inhaling these addictively cheesy and salty fish crackers by the handful. Sales of Goldfish crackers alone totalled more than $435 million in 2013, and 142 billion of the crackers are produced each year by Pepperidge Farms.

At Toronto's Junked Food Co., owners Brian McKilligan and Vince Farago created a menu incorporating snack food like putting taco fixings into a bag of Doritos, drizzling flatbreads with Jolly Rancher barbecue sauce, and breading chicken nuggets with crushed Goldfish crackers.

"If a bag of them are in front of me I'm going to eat them," says McKilligan. "They're not the typical processed cheese snack. There's a spice to it and more flavour than a basic cheese cracker."

Adding Goldfish crackers to Apple Brown Betty gives a delightful crunch to the buttery flour crumble topping.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Apple Brown Betty with Goldfish Cracker Crust

Many recipes that incorporate snack food do it more as a novelty than improving the flavour or texture of the original dish. This take on a traditional Apple Brown Betty, however, gives a delightful cheesy crunch to the buttery flour crumble topping.

Ingredients
2 small baking apples, cored, and sliced into eighths, peeled if desired (try Honeycrisp or Pink Lady)
7.5 mL (1 1/2 tsp) ground cinnamon
5mL (1 tsp) lemon juice
5mL (1 tsp) brown sugar
5mL (1 tsp) hot water
For the crumble
30mL (2 Tbsp) all-purpose flour
15mL (1 Tbsp) brown sugar
30mL (2 Tbsp) unsalted butter, room temperature
125mL (1/2 cup) cheddar-flavoured Goldfish crackers, crushed
5mL (1 tsp) unsalted butter, room temperature
Preheat oven or toaster oven to 350F.

Directions
1. In a bowl, toss the apple slices with the cinnamon and stack them in an oven-safe dish.
2. In another bowl, mix the lemon juice, 1 tsp of brown sugar, and hot water until the sugar dissolves. Pour the mixture over the apples. Set aside.
3. In another bowl, combine the flour, 1 Tbsp brown sugar, and 2 Tbsp of unsalted butter until it reaches a crumbly texture. Sprinkle it evenly on top of the apples.
4. Bake for 40 minutes.
5. Melt the remaining 1 tsp of butter and pour it over the crushed crackers, coating them evenly. Remove the dish from the oven and sprinkle the buttered crackers over the top.
6. Melt the remaining 1 tsp of butter and pour it over the crushed crackers, coating them evenly. Remove the dish from the oven and sprinkle the buttered crackers over the top.
7. Place back in oven and bake for another 20 minutes.
8. Remove from oven. Let rest for 5 minutes before serving. Serves 2.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

ROSE REISMAN
THE SAVVY EATER
THIS WEEK: Instant soups

There's nothing better than a hot bowl of soup on a cold day, but one of these cups contains all the cals without any nutrients.

PICK THIS

Campbell's Soup at Hand Chicken with Mini-Pasta

Portion 1
Calories 70
Fat 1.5g

SKIP THIS

Mr. Noodles Beef

Portion 1
Calories 290
Fat 11g

HERE'S WHY

Equivalent to a Turkey Sandwich from Druxy's in calories (roasted turkey breast, mustard, lettuce, tomato)

Nothing is more comforting in the winter than a hot bowl of soup. While homemade is the tastiest and healthiest choice, instant varieties are handy if you're looking for a quick addition to your meal. While neither of these soups contain enough nutrients, at least Campbell's has real pieces of chicken and contains no artificial flavours or colours. Skip the Mr. Noodles — it has 4 times the calories and 7 times the fat, making it nothing more than ramen noodles with artificial beef flavouring.

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JOHANNA SCHNELLER **WHAT I'M WATCHING**

A dramatic intro to Pablo Escobar

THE SHOW: Narcos, Season 1 Episode 1
THE MOMENT: Netflix

A bridge stop is how we meet the simmering Wagner Moura, who plays Pablo Escobar in Narcos. CONTRIBUTED

On a bridge circa 1973, Colombian colonel Herrera stops trucks loaded with electronics. A mustachioed man (Wagner Moura) steps down.

"Who do you think you are?" Herrera confronts him. "You don't even bother to hide your contraband."

The mustachioed man doesn't blink. "Take a TV," he says genially.

The colonel sputters. "It's not for you," the man continues. "It's for Carlitos, your son. Wouldn't he like a TV in his room?" He turns to another solider.

"Your daughter just got her driver's license, right? I have a nice stereo for her."

He continues addressing soldiers by name, listing their family members. Finally he stops.

"Señores, I'm going to tell you who I am," he says, still serene. "I am Pablo Emilio Escobar Gaviria. My eyes are everywhere. Accept my deal, or accept the consequences." The colonel nods. Escobar's trucks drive on.

Now, that's how you introduce a character. Moura never raises his voice.

He takes his time. Oh, he stands too close to the soldiers, peers too intently into their sunglasses.

But the small smile never leaves his face. In 90 seconds, we know exactly what he's capable of. And this is before he discovers cocaine.

This 10-part series is grounded by facts, and they're terrific: We see how the Medellin cartel made and shipped cocaine in the 1970s and '80s. But what makes it jump is the clarity of the characters. Escobar became a folk hero to Colombians while he murdered their policemen and built drug labs in their rainforests. Moura helps us comprehend how.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

SERIES

American Crime is back with questions

Executive producer John Ridley. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

No one should come to American Crime expecting easy answers to the tough questions it poses.

Viewers learned that during season one of the celebrated ABC drama, when murder and drugs in a California town sparked a troubling look at race, class and a broken legal system.

Viewers will learn it anew as American Crime airs the second hour of this season's saga Wednesday at 10 p.m. EST.

Lurid photos of an Indianapolis teenager have gone viral after a school party where he claims to have been sexually assaulted.

But he will not be the only victim in a clash between students, parents and educators at two very different high schools.

Returning from last season are Felicity Huffman, Timothy Hutton, Lily Taylor and Regina King (who won an Emmy the first go-around), although in brand-new roles.

Also back on board: creator and executive producer John Ridley, the Oscar-winning writer of 12 Years a Slave whose focus for American Crime remains that of examining broad, messy, pressing issues at a painfully personal level.

"The point is not solving them but watching people endure them," he says. "There are resolutions, but in terms of solving anything, like many times in life, we're never gonna know exactly what took place.

"The actors would ask me, 'Will I find out at the end if I did this?' or 'Did a certain thing happen or not?' I would tell each of them, 'Your truth is your truth.'"

It's not the typical drama series, certainly not on a broadcast network where right-and-wrong is usually spelled out for the audience and ethical debates are usually clear-cut. American Crime calls for viewers to unlearn well-entrenched expectations bred by decades of TV custom. It's challenging and rewarding. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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metro DRIVE

Your essential daily news

Derek Zoolander gives his best Blue Steel in new Fiat 500X commercial

Spreading cuteness to crossovers

REVIEW

Stylish and fun, this Fiat is mostly buono

Mike Goetz
For Metro Canada

The small crossover segment is hot. People just love how they bring bigness and AWD into a tidy package. Every brand is bringing one to market, or already has, even luxury brands.

But owing to their small and chubby shapes, sometimes these crossovers are far from the pinnacle of sublime vehicle design. Teenage boys are not putting up posters in their bedrooms of the Chevrolet Trax.

Fiat lucked out in this regard, as their bulbous styling ethos is perfectly suited to this genre. The 500X looks stylish and fun, and distinctively Fiat, with great proportions, and meaty wheels that look like they mean business.

The rounded shape is perfect for maximizing people and cargo room. Headroom and legroom are just great for a vehicle of this size.

Lots of vibrant colour options too, to further the F500X's excellent visuals. But we're not going let good looks completely cloud our thinking, like it usually does.

It utilizes engines, transmissions, and a platform from the Jeep Renegade, and is built alongside Renegade at Fiat's plant in Turin, Italy. The base model, called Pop, is fitted with the 1.4-litre engine and six-speed manual transmission.

Only the 2.4-litre engine is paired with an automatic transmission or AWD, so if you want either of those pieces, you have to move up to the Sport trim (where the 2.4-litre is optional), or the Trekking and Lounge trims (where the 2.4-litre engine is standard).

Our tester was a Trekking with AWD ($32,690) model, with several options, including the big 8.4-inch touchscreen with all the fancy audio stuff and navigation, and the really, cool and big "two-pane" powered sunroof, for a pre-tax, pre-destination charge tally of $35,875, which actually represents pretty good value, considering the level of equipment.

Getting comfy and adjusted behind the wheel is a synch, thanks in part to Chrysler's intuitive touchscreen, and lots of nice, round switchgear, which is part of the "rounded" interior and exterior vibe of the Fiat 500 line.

On one particular long-haul drive, I found myself squirming a bit in the driver's seat, which seems less supportive than it could be. But overall the cabin's a great place to hang out. The 180-hp 2.4-litre engine is plenty strong and peppy, but the real technological treat is the nine-speed automatic transmission.

The excellent powertrain is let down, however, by the handling. Nothing dangerous, just a bit too much body motion over rough stuff and in the corners, and not too involving. If you like to zone out when you drive, this will not be a problem, but if you need to get your driving fix everyday, maybe look elsewhere. Otherwise the 500X looks good, especially in the … well, looks department.

THE CHECKLIST | 2016 FIAT 500X

THE BASICS

Type. Five-door, five-passenger, FWD or AWD, subcompact crossover
Power. 160-hp turbo 1.4-litre I4, 180-hp 2.4-litre I4
Transmission. six-speed manual, nine-speed automatic
Price. Base $21,995 (plus destination)

COOL FEATURES

- AWD features regular, sport, and super traction modes, and also automatically disconnects rear axle, when AWD not needed.
- Big dual panel sunroof, lots of exterior colours.
- Full suite of safety systems available, including forward collision and blind sport warning, and rear cross path detection.

MAIN AND INTERIOR PHOTOS: MIKE GOETZ/FOR METRO; OTHERS HANDOUT

POINTS

- Cute yet rugged styling stands out in crowded crossover market.
- No cheap AWD versions; AWD only available on higher trim lines, and with 2.4-litre engine and automatic transmission.
- Achieved Top Safety Pick + status, highest safety rating awarded by the IIHS.

MARKET POSITION

- Designed and built in Italy, and marketed as such — it's the stylish and fun alternative with flair and personality.
- First Fiat to offer AWD; shares platform with Jeep Renegade.
- Fiat's entry in hot subcompact crossover segment; a segment that has great appeal to young couples and families, and empty nesters.

THE COMPETITION

Mini Countryman
Base price: $29,950

Nissan Juke
Base price: $20,698

Buick Encore
Base price: $29,645

FOR A LIMITED TIME

Jeep marks 75th anniversary with special-edition vehicles

Necessity may be the mother of invention but even Willys-Overland, the original Jeep's builders, had no idea that they were creating a truly timeless automotive icon when they accepted a U.S. military challenge to design and build an all-terrain vehicle in just 60 days.

"Jeep vehicles have defined the authentic SUV and set the benchmark for off-road capability and freedom since they were first produced in 1941," said Mike Manley, Head of Jeep Brand FCA Global. "In honor of the brand's 75th anniversary, we have created eye-catching, special-edition models of each vehicle in our lineup that celebrate the unparalleled history of the legendary Jeep brand."

To ensure the special editions stand out among their peers, they will be offered in a choice of three Jeep-model exclusive shades of Green (a small selection of other colours are available), plus contrasting orange accents.

The 75th Anniversary Wrangler and Wrangler Unlimited editions will be offered in Sarge Green with bronze coloured wheels and headlamp surrounds.

Jeep's birthday fleet was unveiled at the Detroit Auto Show. COURTESY JEEP

The models also get unique rock rails, and a body-coloured front grille, while inside the heated seats are trimmed in leather with mesh inserts.

Recon Green is the colour choice for the Cherokee and Grand Cherokee. But as well as a special paint finish, the Grand Cherokee turns up the style even further with a unique front fascia, grille and headlamps. The look is completed by glossy black body accents. This means the orange accents move to the interior, adorning the seats as a contrast stitching colour instead.

The Renegade gets new grille surrounds, fog lamp bezels and roof rack in a bronze finish to go with its jungle green exterior finish, and inside there's a Beats Audio system. Finally, the Compass and the Patriot also gets new bronze exterior and interior detailing while a power sunroof, remote start and a leather-wrapped steering wheel are also standard equipment. AFP

GM bets U.S. will buy Made in China

DETROIT AUTO SHOW

Vehicle may be a U.S. presidential campaign issue

General Motors is placing a big bet the American public is willing to drive a car built in China with the Buick Envision, unveiled earlier this week.

The largest U.S. automaker is certainly not trying to bring it to market quietly: Buick's latest sport utility vehicle was introduced at a lavish party on the eve of the Detroit Auto Show in the hopes of maximizing media coverage.

"We expect it to be a great success," said Molly Peck, U.S. marketing director for Buick.

"It offers all the features and amenities of a luxury UV. It's high quality, quiet, filled with advance safety technology. The design is gorgeous. The interior execution is outstanding. And it's all at a price point that offers a great a value."

GM's decision to import the Envision from China — a first for a major automaker — has sparked outrage and is expected to become an issue in the 2016 presidential campaign.

The United Auto Workers union, which had lobbied to build the Envision in the United States, called the decision to import it from China a "slap in the face" to taxpayers who bailed GM out of bankruptcy in the wake of the financial 2008 crisis.

Republican frontrunner Donald Trump has not yet seized on the issue, but given that he regularly rails against China for stealing American jobs analysts say it's only a matter of time. AFP

"This is a major event that opens a new era," say Harley Shaiken, an automotive labour issues expert. AFP

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Example: $25,000 purchase financed at 0% APR for 48/60/72/84 months, monthly payment is $520.84/$416.67/$347.22/$297.62, cost of borrowing is $0 or APR of 0% and total to be repaid is $25,000. Down payment on purchase financing offers may be required based on approved credit from Ford Credit Canada Limited. * Until February 1, 2016, receive $2,000/$2,750/$3,500/$3,750/$4,000/$4,500/$4, 750/$10,000/$11,500 in "Manufacturer Rebates" (Delivery Allowances) with the purchase or lease of a new 2016 F-250 Gas Engine, F-350 to F-450 (excl. Chassis Cabs) Gas Engine/ 2015 and 2016 F-150 Regular Cab (excl. XL 4X2) 5.0L / 2016 F-350 to F-550 Chassis Cabs/ 2015 F-150 SuperCrew 4X4/ 2016 F-150 SuperCab, F-150 SuperCrew 4X4/ 2016 F-250 Diesel Engine, F-350 to F-450 (excl. Chassis Cabs) Diesel Engine/ 2015 F-350 to F-550 Chassis Cabs/ 2015 F-150 SuperCab/ 2015 F-250 Gas Engine, F-350 to F-450 (excl. Chassis Cabs) Gas Engine/ 2015 F-250 Diesel Engine, F-350 to F-450 (excl. Chassis Cabs) Diesel Engine – all stripped chassis, F-150 Raptor, Medium Truck, Mustang Shelby and 50th Anniversary excluded. Delivery allowances are not combinable with any fleet consumer incentives. ¥ Until February 1, 2016, 2015 F-150 receives $4,250/$4,250/$5,250 in "Non-stackable cash" on a new F-150 Regular Cab (excluding XL 4x2) 5.0L/F-150 SuperCrew 4x4/F-150 SuperCab Non-XL. "Non-stackable Cash" is available to cash purchase customers and customers not financing or leasing through Ford Credit. "Non-stackable Cash" is not combinable with Ford Credit purchase financing or lease rates. While quantities last. ^^ Until February 1, 2016, purchase a new 2015 F-150 Platinum SuperCrew 4X4 for $60,399 (after Manufacturer Rebates of $3,750 and Non-Stackable Cash of $4,250 deducted). Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price after Manufacturer Rebates and Non-Stackable Cash have been deducted. Offer includes charges for freight and air tax $1,000 but excludes options, A/C Tax, Green Levy (if applicable), license, fuel fill charge, insurance, dealer PDI, PPSA (if financed or leased), administration fees, and any other applicable environmental charges/fees and taxes. All prices are based on Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. † When properly equipped. Max. towing of 12,200 lbs with 3.5L EcoBoost V6 4x2 Max. payloads of 3,300 lbs/3,270 lbs with 5.0L Ti-VCT V8/3.5L V6 EcoBoost 4x2 engines. Class is Full-Size Pickups under 8,500 lbs GVWR vs. 2014 competitors. ‡ Class is Fullsize Pickups under 8500 lbs (3856 kg) excluding Diesel versus 2015 Competitors' 5-cycle ratings. 2015 F-150 4x2 equipped with the 2.7L V6 EcoBoost® and 6-Speed SelectShift® Automatic transmission, estimated fuel consumption ratings are 12.2L/100km city, 9.2L/100km hwy, 10.9L/100km combined, based on Government of Canada approved test methods. Actual fuel consumption will vary. • Government 5-Star Safety Ratings are part of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA's) New Car Assessment Program (www.SaferCar.gov). + F-Series is the best-selling line of pickup trucks in Canada for 50 years in a row based on Canadian Vehicle Manufacturers' Association statistical sales report up to 2015 year end. ©2016 Sirius Canada Inc. "SiriusXM", the SiriusXM logo, channel names and logos are trademarks of SiriusXM Radio Inc. and are used under licence. ©2016 Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited. All rights reserved.

LONDON TAXI COMPANY

Black Cabs go electric

With a major investment from its China-based owner, Geely, the London Taxi Company will convert all its iconic Black Cabs to extended-range hybrid-electric vehicles.

The next-generation TX5 model's powertrain was chosen to allow zero-emission operation without causing the dreaded "range anxiety" associated with electrics. Under the familiar looking skin, the taxi has been almost completely redesigned, with an aluminum body structure with composite panels, and rear-opening doors for easier access. Other passenger-friendly features include a panoramic glass roof and onboard wi-fi. Geely, also known for its hydrogen fuel cell-powered transit buses, invested US $77.2 million in a new plant in England that will also serve as Geely's U.K. research and development centre. WHEELBASE MEDIA

Black Cabs to extended-range hybrid-electric vehicles. COURTESY WHEELBASE MEDIA

IN BRIEF

Aston Martins displayed at Harrods in London

Three Aston Martin cars will take over the Harrods storefront window in London as part of a month-long celebration of the British-made automobile.

Aston Martins have been synonymous with James Bond films for the last 50 years. The DB10 being shown at Harrods was built specifically for the latest Bond film Spectre. Also on display is the new Austin Martin model DB9 GT. Arguably the most famous of Aston Martins, the DB5, can be seen at the luxury department store in the Knightsbridge area, as well. This model was released in 1963 and set a standard for Aston Martins to follow with its improvement in performance.

Aston Martin specialists will be on site throughout an accompanying exhibition to provide visitors with insight into the cars and their product range. The window display and the exhibition will run until January 28. AFP

Storefront at Harrods.

Students nail down carpentry careers

Students at the Manitoba Institute of Trades and Technology's (MITT) carpentry program have been busy building a cabin and, in the process, learning essential skills that will help them to launch their careers.

"The program starts out with some classroom theory first and then students go to the shop to do things like building sheds, practicing exterior and interior finishing, siding, drywall, framing and more," says Cal Wiebe, an instructor in the five-month program, which has been offered at the school (formerly Winnipeg Technical College) for 10 years.

The undertaking is the first step in becoming a certified (Red Seal) carpenter, which requires students to complete four levels of training. Each level involves 1,800 hours of on-the-job experience under the supervision of a certified journeyperson and some technical instruction.

"Our program covers all the practical skills and knowledge of the level 1 carpentry apprenticeship program," says Wiebe. "A lot of our students don't have previous experience and the program gives them the confidence to go to an employer knowing that they can handle the basics of the job."

Students who complete the MITT program, which prepares them for starting positions in areas of the construction industry, such as home building and renovations, typically get a job with an employer who will eventually sponsor them for the second level of apprenticeship.

"There are pay raises which are tied to each step towards becoming a certified carpenter," says Wiebe. "Some people go on to complete levels 2 or 3, and find permanent jobs in commercial and residential construction. A journeyperson may also end up owning his own business or become a supervisor or foreperson."

In the last four years, according to steadygrowth.ca, a provincial government resource that helps Manitobans take advantage of career opportunities, the number of jobs in the province's construction industry increased by almost 20 per cent and the growth is expected to continue.

"There's so much construction going on and our population keeps growing, so there'll continue to be opportunities, for sure," says Wiebe, who got his start in 1999. "It's hard work but you feel like you accomplish something every day, so it makes for a rewarding career."

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RESOLVE TO FIND NEW JOB THIS YEAR

The beginning of the new year is often a time of reflection, looking ahead and contemplating change. It is also a great time to consider advancing your career, says a recruitment expert at Pinnacle, Manitoba's largest recruitment firm.

"As the new year starts, it is natural to start thinking about one's career and how we want to better ourselves," says Anand Sahay, leader of Pinnacle's executive and professional search division.

Employees aren't the only ones thinking about change.

Employers, says Sahay, see this as a time to revisit their strategies and prepare for the year ahead — and this means thinking about ways to strengthen their workforce. Quite simply, it is when companies start to hire.

The Conference Board of Canada, an independent, evidence-based, not-for-profit research organization, predicts that Manitoba will have one of the leading provincial economies in 2016.

"Construction is booming," says Sahay. "Manitoba has numerous high-profile new developments, both commercial and residential. Manufacturing in Winnipeg has also been steadily increasing, especially with the low Canadian dollar. Many of our clients in the contact centre sector are on the upswing."

CONTRIBUTED

As a result, Sahay says he predicts an increased demand for project managers, site supervisors and skilled tradespeople in construction. In manufacturing, which has always had a shortage of electrical engineers, he says, there will also be increased demand for mechanical designers and operational personnel.

Pinnacle's in-depth recruitment process, says Sahay, helps job seekers stand out from the competition.

"We first look to understand why you are seeking a career change. Then we work with you to build a picture of your ideal next job," he says. "Once we've developed this understanding, we strategize with you on which of our clients will make the best match.

"We don't just hand over your resume to our client. We give them a deeper understanding of who you are as a person that goes well beyond what is on paper."

Pinnacle has specialized recruiters in accounting and finance, manufacturing, engineering, construction, sales and marketing, human resources, information technology, restaurant and hospitality, office support and customer service, industrial and skilled labour, insurance, and supply chain.

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'I think I'll live': Bill Belichick has a black eye and neither his players nor reporters could get the Patriots coach to reveal how he got it

Sharks win West-side story

NHL

Jets suffer their third straight loss

Joe Pavelski scored his 22nd goal of the season and added an assist as the San Jose Sharks defeated the Winnipeg Jets 4-1 on Tuesday.

San Jose was playing its third game in four nights and finished the trip on a three-game winning streak.

Joe Thornton, Chris Tierney and Joel Ward, with an empty-netter, also scored for the Sharks (21-18-2). Tierney also picked up an assist.

Winnipeg (19-21-3) got its lone goal from Nikolaj Ehlers.

Alex Stalock made 21 saves for San Jose, while Connor Hellebuyck turned aside 23 shots for Winnipeg, which has lost three straight.

San Jose got the scoring going with Tierney's unassisted short-handed goal at 15:18 of the first period while teammate Tommy Wingels was in the penalty box for hooking.

Winnipeg responded with the man advantage 23 seconds later.

Drew Stafford took a giveaway from Sharks defenceman Justin Braun, skated into the offensive zone and sent a backhand pass across the front of the net to Ehlers, who used his own backhand shot for his seventh goal of the season at 15:41.

Thornton restored the Sharks lead with 37 seconds left in the opening period on a close shot off a Tomas Hertl rebound.

The Sharks' Mike Brown slams the Jets' Joel Armia into the boards on Tuesday night. TREVOR HAGAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Sharks are 17-2 when scoring first. Winnipeg head coach Paul Maurice changed up his defensive pairings in the second period, but the team couldn't beat Stalock.

The Jets outshot the Sharks 8-6 in the middle frame, but San Jose had the overall 17-15 edge.

Winnipeg went on its third power play early in the final period, but couldn't convert. Hellebuyck then stopped Ward on a breakaway.

TUESDAY at MTS Centre

SHARKS	JETS
4	1

Midway through the third Jets defenceman Tyler Myers was called for cross-checking and a game misconduct when he banged Wingels in the head after Wingels checked him hard into the boards.

Jets forward Blake Wheeler appeared to score after Stalock fell coming out of his crease on a clearing attempt, but Wheeler was dinged for tripping the netminder as he went by him and around the back of the net to grab the puck.

With the lengthy 5-on-3, Pavelski took a pass from Tierney and fired a sharp-angled shot by Hellebuyck with 4:01 remaining. Ward put in his empty-netter with 54 seconds left in the game. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL IN BRIEF

Pair of Habs linked to alleged domestic dispute

Injured Montreal Canadiens goaltender Carey Price skated for a second straight day Tuesday, but the sliver of good news for the struggling club was overshadowed by more controversy off the ice.

Montreal La Presse's digital edition said Alex Galchenyuk's girlfriend was arrested in a case of alleged domestic violence. Galchenyuk and Devante Smith-Pelly were reported to be present during the incident. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Blackhawks extend coach

The Chicago Blackhawks have given a three-year contract extension to Joel Quenneville, locking up the highly successful coach through the 2019-20 season. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

If I win, I'll let you guys know.

Even though Alex Ovechkin makes $10 million a year playing for the Washington Capitals, he can't pass up the chance to try to win the $1.5-billion Powerball jackpot.

MLB

Dodgers announce hiring of ex-Jays GM

Former Toronto Blue Jays general manager Alex Anthopoulos is back working in baseball again.

The 38-year-old Montreal native will serve as the Los Angeles Dodgers' vice-president of baseball operations. The National League West division champions announced the move Tuesday on their official Twitter feed.

The hiring reunites Anthopoulos with Ismael Cruz, who served as his former special assistant and director of Latin American operations before joining the Dodgers last November. Anthopoulos will also be working with Dodgers general manager Farhan Zaidi, a native of Sudbury, Ont.

Alex Anthopoulos THE CANADIAN PRESS

Anthopoulos will assist in all aspects of baseball operations, the Dodgers said in a release. THE CANADIAN PRESS

SOCCER IN BRIEF

Prosecutors seek longer bans on Blatter, Platini

Already banished from soccer for eight years, former FIFA leaders Sepp Blatter and Michel Platini are again facing the threat of life bans.

FIFA ethics prosecutors said Tuesday they will appeal to increase the bans, arguing they are too lenient.

Blatter and Platini deny wrongdoing over Blatter approving a $2-million payment from FIFA to Platini in 2011 as backdated salary without a contract. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Vandals paint Messi's name on a Ronaldo statue

Vandals in Portugal have painted Lionel Messi's name on a Cristiano Ronaldo statue in Portugal.

Messi's jersey number also was tagged with red paint on Ronaldo's full-figured statue.

Portuguese and Spanish media say the statue was vandalized early Tuesday, a day after Messi won the Ballon d'Or to end Ronaldo's two-year hold on soccer's top individual honour. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PREMIER LEAGUE

Man United plays to thrilling draw

Wayne Rooney converts a penalty on Tuesday. IAN MACNICOL/GETTY IMAGES

So much for Manchester United being boring.

In one of the most entertaining matches of the English Premier League season, United squandered a two-goal lead, went back in front through an exquisite shot from Wayne Rooney, and then conceded a 90th-minute goal to draw at Newcastle 3-3 on Tuesday.

Also Tuesday, Aston Villa beat Crystal Palace 1-0 and West Ham rallied for a 3-1 win over Bournemouth. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FOOTBALL IN BRIEF

Stamps keep Jorden, cut Harrison and Brown loose
The Calgary Stampeders re-signed receiver Kamar Jorden on Tuesday while releasing offensive lineman Edwin Harrison and kick-returner/running back Tim Brown.

Jorden has spent the last two seasons with Calgary, appearing in three games. THE CANADIAN PRESS

New Riders receiver Price to extend stay in Regina
The Saskatchewan Roughriders signed receiver Maurice Price to a contract extension on Tuesday.

The Riders acquired Price and a 2016 sixth-round pick from the Ottawa Redblacks on Monday for 2016 sixth- and seventh-round draft selections. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Alouettes sign up big Canuck OL Piotrowski
The Montreal Alouettes signed Canadian offensive lineman Jake Piotrowski to a two-year contract Tuesday.

The six-foot-four, 293-pound Piotrowski appeared in all 18 regular-season games last year with Montreal, making a start. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Steelers holding out hope
Pittsburgh Steelers coach Mike Tomlin said Tuesday that Ben Roethlisberger has "a chance" of playing against the Denver Broncos this weekend after injuring his right shoulder in last Saturday's win over Cincinnati.

Receiver Antonio Brown remains in concussion protocol and running back DeAngelo Williams is a long shot to return from a right foot injury. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cards lose key D-men
The Arizona Cardinals have lost two defensive starters — outside linebacker Alex Okafor and defensive tackle Cory Redding — for the playoffs.

Okafor is on the non-football injury list with a toe injury and Redding is on injured reserve with an ankle sprain. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New tech for Super Bowl
CBS Sports will unveil new technology for the broadcast of Super Bowl 50.

A replay system will give viewers a 360-degree perspective and higher resolution than ever previously seen for the big game. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Oh, what a rush

NFL

High-tempo offence key to Packers' plan

At their best against Washington, the Green Bay Packers snapped back to the line of scrimmage quickly after a successful play, ready for the next snap.

Uptempo play confounded the Redskins' defence in Green Bay's 35-18 win in the wild-card round, a confidence boost for the Packers ahead of a matchup against Arizona's tough defence on Saturday night in an NFC divisional playoff game.

"We like to move the ball fast," receiver James Jones said after the win over Washington. "When we get a good tempo going, we're hard to stop."

That has typically been the case with coach Mike McCarthy calling the plays and quarterback Aaron Rodgers taking snaps under centre.

But with deep threat Jordy Nelson out all season with a knee injury, and the running game chugging along in fits and starts, the once-potent Packers offence has struggled to produce points.

Aaron Rodgers and the Packers had the Redskins' defence off balance last Sunday in Landover, Md. PATRICK SMITH/GETTY IMAGES

They've had spurts of success playing catch-up, such as rallying for two touchdowns in the final 7:54 of a 37-29 loss to Carolina.

Late rallies at home against Detroit, Chicago and Minnesota fell short of victory. The 27-23 win over the Lions on the road on Dec. 3 ended with perhaps the Packers' signature play this season — the 61-yard touchdown catch by Richard Rodgers as time expired on a desperation pass from Aaron Rodgers.

Last week against Washington, the Packers were back to scoring points in bunches after a sluggish first quarter.

They moved the ball effectively in no-huddle and shotgun formations. Rodgers caught the Redskins secondary at least a couple of times on free plays, including a 12-yard score to Randall Cobb in the second quarter.

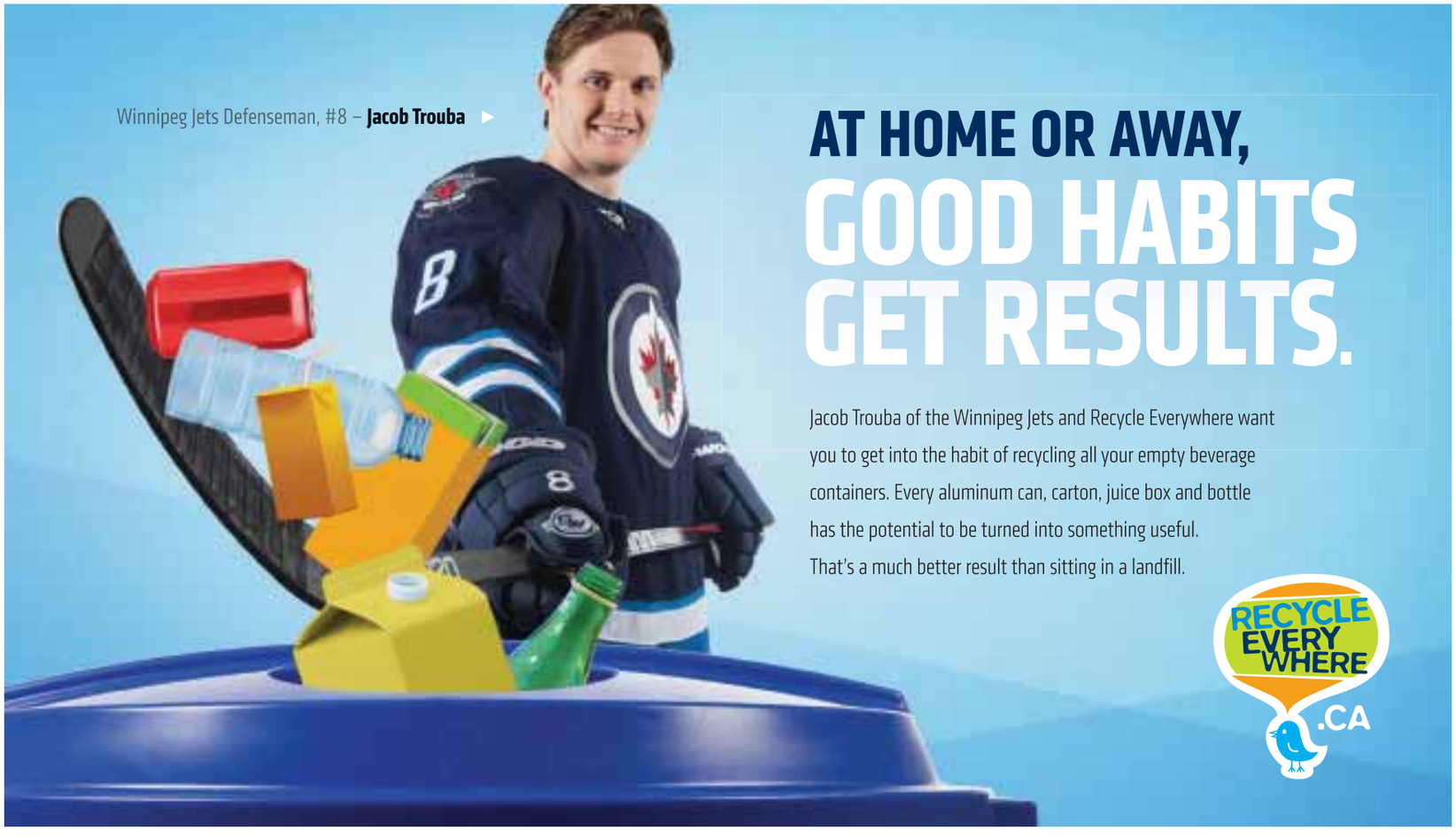
> **"This is the way I learned it, the traditional West Coast offence built around making the quarterback successful."**
> Mike McCarthy

"It's part of being a no-huddle offence, it's important to us," McCarthy said on Tuesday. "That's the way we prefer to play, and we're all about getting as many attempts at the plate as possible."

It all starts with the offensive line, whose top priority is to protect Rodgers. When the offence is in sync, Rodgers doesn't need much time to find his receivers.

And when he's feeling good, the Packers are hard to stop.

"Your best players, particularly your best player has to practice hard every day. He has outstanding energy," McCarthy said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS


Winnipeg Jets Defenseman, #8 – Jacob Trouba
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RECIPE Light and Simple Faux Pho

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

Far from authentic, this light and bright soup is an easy version of the intoxicating, traditional Vietnamese soup.

Ready in
Prep time: 30 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients
- 1 Tbsp vegetable oil
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 tsp fresh ginger, minced
- 6 oz rice vermicelli (half of most packages)
- 3 1/2 cups chicken stock
- 1 cup water
- 14 oz can of coconut milk
- 3/4 lb of chicken breast, thinly sliced
- 6 Tbsp fresh lime juice
- 3 Tbsp fish sauce
- 2 tsp sugar
- Handful of cilantro
- Handful of bean sprouts
- 1 cup julienned carrots
- 1 cup julienned red pepper

Directions
1. In a large pot, warm up your vegetable oil and sauté the garlic and ginger until they're translucent and fragrant. Add the stock, coconut milk and water and bring to a simmer. Add the chicken and cook for 20 minutes.
2. While that's happening, soak your noodles in luke-warm water in a large bowl. Once the chicken has been cooking for 20 minutes, add the noodles and stir. Add the lime, fish sauce and sugar. Taste to check seasoning.
3. Serve in large bowls and top with fresh carrots, sprouts, peppers and cilantro.

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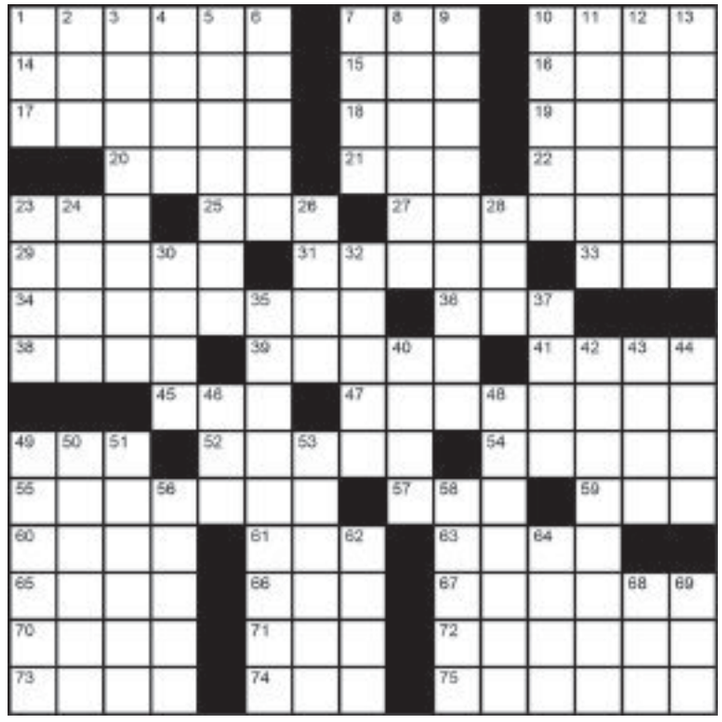
CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Make a raised design, as on stationery
7. Ball shape
10. Montreal 'souls'
14. Informant
15. 'Ballad' suffix
16. Immense
17. __ Islands, in The Caribbean
18. 'Impress' suffix
19. Particular preposition
20. Business contact nos.
21. Ben-Hur author Mr. Wallace
22. Cracked a bit
23. Mount __ (Volcano in Japan)
25. Energy
27. Get back together
29. __ of judgment
31. Deflect
33. Mr. Danson of "Cheers"
34. Arctic sky-to-snow aircraft
36. '_' __ in Iberville
38. "_! __..." (American anthem opener)
39. Combine, corporate-ly
41. Rhyming scheme
45. Be in need of Kleenex
47. One taking city transit: 2 wds.
49. 'Passion' suffix
52. Gold medal position
54. Taco kit brand, with Paso: 2 wds.
55. Kitchen set
57. Prefix to 'metrical'
59. Company's stock mkt. debut
60. Ms. Ryan's
61. Global currency org.
63. West's opposite direction
65. Goo Goo Dolls hit
66. Boat's one-of-two
67. Sprinkle with holy oil
70. Ms. Russo
71. Mini-looking guitar
72. One cracking a code
73. Shangri-la
74. Picture
75. Canadian-born reality star Shannon, and surnamesakes

DOWN
1. Techie bail-out key
2. Bygone bird
3. Canadian daily deals website co-founded by #48-Down
4. "Him __ __ - What's It Gonna Be?": Tune by #8-Down
5. Ready-to-start-slicing surgeon's request
6. Feel
7. Eye: French
8. Paul _ & The Raiders
9. Minhas __ and Distillery (Co-founded/co-owned by #11-Down)
10. Like a Canada Goose, for example
11. As per #9-Down... Ms. Minhas, Dragon on CBC's "Dragons' Den"
12. CBC's "The Fifth __"
13. Stashed
23. To boot
24. __ Fifth Avenue (Posh store)
26. Window what?
28. Ms. Hagen of Broadway
30. Belonging to an undercover agent
32. Words of action
35. Aspirational
37. Go boating
40. Grit
42. Food's extra ingredient
43. Traffic jam sound!
44. __ and Janis (Comic strip)
46. Commonly, in poetry
48. As per #3-Down... Dragon on CBC's "Dragons' Den", Michele __
49. Look up to
50. Like a wedding cake
51. Car part
53. Create a newer version
56. German industrial city
58. Bread-making ingredient
62. Discharge
64. Fish variety
68. Mr. Beatty
69. Actor Mr. Knight, et al.

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
Play by the rules and don't cut corners. There's a lot at stake and while it may seem as if no one is watching they almost certainly are. Act as if the eyes of the world are upon you.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Throw caution to the wind and do whatever it takes to make your mark. Aim to be first in everything you do and before the day is over your name will be up in lights. Don't pretend you don't want that — because you do!

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Any promises you made in recent weeks will have to be made good today and tomorrow. If you can't deliver on them then you may have to pay compensation.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
You don't have the last say. What can you do about it? Not a lot but it's no big deal. The cosmic wheel will turn again and one day soon you'll be calling the shots.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Keep your plans simple because it will be all too easy to get into a muddle and lose track of what you are supposed to be doing. Cosmic activity in the work area of your chart means you need to stay flexible.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You'll find yourself in a position of power but don't let it get to your head. If you're too domineering you could spark a feud that lingers for weeks, months, maybe even years.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
If you need to make changes on the home front then do it now. If you don't take control someone else will, so start guiding events, and people, in the direction you want them to go.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You will think and act fast today and it may be frustrating when you have to slow down because others are dragging their feet. Look for intelligent ways to get ahead of the pack.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Success needs to be worked at continuously. What happens today will make sure you don't forget that point. What you achieved in the past no longer matters — you are only as good as your next big win.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You'll find a way to get what you want. You can sense that the cosmic omens are on your side you won't allow anyone to stand in your way.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You seem to have a lot of negative feelings and you need to do something about them. Find a way to be alone with your thoughts today so you can get your head back in shape.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Today you'll come into contact with someone who has amazing ideas and can inspire you to achieve great things. They may not look remarkable at first sight though, so keep your eyes and ears open. Genius comes in all shapes and sizes.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

			6	4	5			
7		9				5		4
	2		5		3		7	
		3				6		
	1		9		7		3	
4		6				3		2
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YESTERDAY'S ANSWERS

Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers from the play page.

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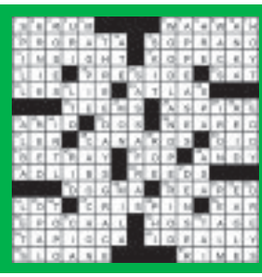

8	7	2	3	9	4	5	6	1
6	9	3	1	5	2	8	4	7
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9	2	6	8	4	7	1	5	3
4	8	7	5	3	1	2	9	6
5	6	9	4	1	3	7	8	2
7	1	4	2	8	6	9	3	5
2	3	8	9	7	5	6	1	4

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